

2008 ROOT LOCAL PARTNER PRESENTATION



Forest Mineral & Fire Management Division
November 2007





A program to restore canopy cover to areas impacted by the emerald ash borer



Sponsored by:



In partnership with:

Governor Jennifer Granholm

Michigan Department of Agriculture



ROOT Program Goals

- ❖ Provide homeowners landscape trees at a reduced cost to begin restoring the canopy cover and replant trees that have been lost to the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation in the 21 contiguous EAB Quarantined counties.
- ❖ Maintain the environmental benefits that trees provide, including energy conservation, improving air quality and reducing stormwater run-off.
- ❖ Create investment through cost-share; by having homeowners cover half of the cost of the tree(s), the program is both affordable and encourages long-term care by the homeowner.
- ❖ Encourage diversity in the urban forest by offering a variety of suitable tree species.
- ❖ Educate homeowners on planting the right tree in the right place.



ROOT Program Elements

- ❖ **Eight** locations in the 21 EAB quarantined counties will serve as regional tree distribution centers
- ❖ Each of these eight locations will be administered by a Local Partner that will serve as the local program administrator
- ❖ Each location will have up to 300 trees available for purchase



A pilot program to restore canopy cover to areas impacted by the Emerald Ash Borer.

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- EAB Quarantined Counties**

The area has been broken up into 3 regions:

Region 1 will have 2 Local Partners

Region 2 will have 4 Local Partners

Region 3 will have 2 Local Partners



ROOT Program Elements

- ❖ The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will obtain the 6-8' containerized tree stock through a bidding process
 - ❖ There will be no warranty or guarantee on the trees
- ❖ Homeowners will be responsible for paying approximately 50% towards the purchase price of the trees and DTE Energy Foundation's contribution will cover the remaining costs.
 - ❖ Limit two trees per household
 - ❖ Homeowners will be given instructions on how to properly plant and care for their trees



Species List

- ❖ Sugar Maple and cultivars, *Acer saccharum*
- ❖ River Birch (single stem), *Betula nigra* 'Heritage'
- ❖ Ginkgo and cultivars, *Ginkgo biloba*
- ❖ Tulip Tree, *Liriodendron tulipifera*
- ❖ Dawn Redwood, *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*
- ❖ London Planetree, *Platanus x acerifolia*
- ❖ Red Oak, *Quercus rubra*
- ❖ Swamp White Oak, *Quercus bicolor*



ROOT Program Timeline

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Feb. 07 | Trees secured through nursery |
| Nov. 07 | Local Partner Applications Released |
| Dec. 07 | December 17- Local Partner Applications Due |
| Jan. 08 | Local Partners Announced DNR meets with each Local Partner ROOT Program announced |
| Feb.- March 08 | Trees ordered by homeowner |
| April 08 | Trees Delivered & Distributed |



Local Partner Role

- ❖ Main role of the Local Partner (LP) is to serve as local administrator for the program.
- ❖ The LP may receive a \$1500 cost-share, reimbursement grant from the DNR or will have the ability to charge a small administration fee to homeowners to administer program. They will also be eligible to purchase a maximum of 10 trees at the reduced cost.



Local Partner Responsibilities

- ❖ Promoting program in region that LP will be serving
- ❖ Handling and processing tree orders and all charges associated with order
 - ❖ The LP will take pre-orders for up to 300 trees and collect the homeowner's share of the tree cost
 - ❖ The LP will be responsible for sending homeowner payment for trees and a count of the total number of pre-ordered trees to the DNR.



Local Partner Responsibilities

- ❖ Trees will be delivered in April 2008
 - ❖ They must be distributed by the LP within 7-10 days of delivery
- ❖ Local Partner selects site and date for tree distribution
 - ❖ Coordination of tree distribution with staff or volunteers.
 - ❖ Tree Distribution will be one-day event, approximately 6 hours on a weekend day



Local Partner Responsibilities

- ❖ Assist State in program evaluation
- ❖ If awarded an administration grant, submit for reimbursement and document all income/expenses associated with ROOT program.



State of Michigan Responsibilities

- ❖ Create bid for trees and send out Invitation to Bid to nurseries
 - ❖ Select winning bid(s), order trees & pay nurseries
- ❖ Assist LP in program promotion & administration
 - ❖ Create spreadsheet templates for administration
- ❖ Evaluate program
 - ❖ Distribute evaluations to LP
 - ❖ Select homeowners to rate overall program



Local Partner Selection Criteria

Local Partners will be selected to service a Region. Applicants for a particular region will be evaluated against other applicants interested in servicing that region.

❖ Primary Criteria

❖ Quality of Application

- ❖ Were all application questions answered
- ❖ Demonstrated ability to deliver program

❖ Secondary Criteria

- ❖ Location- reviewers will look to distribute Local Partners throughout region and program area.
- ❖ Program history- participation in other EAB programs including ash tree removal program and EAB outreach
- ❖ DNR grant history- including demonstrated ability to complete project on-time and timely and accurate submission of reimbursement requests.
 - ❖ Applicants who have not received a DNR grant will not be penalized

❖ Final Criteria

- ❖ If applicants are equal on both primary and secondary criteria, the Local Partner for the region will be selected randomly.



Next Steps

- ❖ If your municipality/organization is interested in participating in the program...
- ❖ Complete the Local Partner application
- ❖ Submit to the DNR by December 17, 2007

?QUESTIONS?

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